

USAR

Reference: 3/PPDT/T28

GERMAN AIR-RAIDS AND BOMBING TACTICS (1940)

From: LONDON

To: MOSCOW

No: 848

27th July 40.

To JOHN [DIXON][1].

1. On 22nd and [B% 23rd] July there were German air-raids night and day, by individual Do-17's and 18's on the THAMES Estuary, South Wales and South-East England [using][a] incendiary and fragmentation bombs [11].

2. On 24th July in the morning and throughout the day He-111's and 113's, Do-17's and 215's, Me-109's and 110's, and American VUGHT 156's (captured in France) [B% bombed] shipping and dropped mines on the south coast of England. Formation [used][a] in one of this day's raids: at a height of 1,500 metres 18 bombers in V-formation, three Me-109's above and behind, and above them a group of He-113's.

3. There were no air-raids at night on 25th July. In the morning about 100 aircraft bombed shipping in south-east England. In the afternoon 19 Do-17's and 12 Me-109's bombed shipping from a height of 4,000 metres. In the evening 30 Ju-87's accompanied by 50 Me-109's bombed shipping.

4. Technique of one bombing attack on shipping: 20 Ju-87's dived one after another from a height of 1,000 metres. Having dropped their bombs they came out of their dive at a height of 300-400 metres, did a loop or an IMMELMAN turn and bombed for a second time. They were accompanied by two layers of fighters, the first at a height of 2,000-5,000 metres and the second at 6,000-7,000 metres, to take on the British fighters.

5. It has been noted that German aircraft have begun to be equipped with rubber dinghies.

No. 207

DICK [DIX][111]

Notes: [a] Inserted by translator.

(cont. overleaf

- Comments: [1] JOHN: Unidentified MOSCOW addressee 6th July 1940 - 16th September 1940.
- [11] All the items in this message were probably obtained from overt sources.
- [111] NICK: Covername of unidentified LONDON signatory and addressee between 6th July 1940 and 11th October 1940.